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day to night.

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can explore over 1,500 colors—then virtually paint any room with the swipe of a finger.





Visualizer app on your tablet and start visualizing color now at **sherwin-williams.com/colorsnap**.





COLOR CONFIDENCE

Touch, Feel & Explore color, only at the Sherwin-Williams ColorSnap® Studio

When it comes to decorating, color is one of the most important decisions you'll make.
With its interactive in-store color wall, designer-inspired palettes, and consultants,
Sherwin-Williams makes finding the right color simple and seamless.

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Scan any Sherwin-Williams 2"x3" paint chip using their **FREE ColorSnap* Visualizer** app on your smartphone for instant access to room scenes, coordinating colors and more!



BE INSPIRED

Looking to *Transform Small Spaces* or *Work With Neutrals*? Sherwin-Williams **Color Guides** let you take great design and decorating ideas home.

decorating ideas nome.

TEST COLOR FIRST

Narrowed down your choices? Sherwin-Williams **Color to Go®** samples let you live with them at home. Before committing, cover an area large enough to gauge how a shade looks in your room's light at different times of day.



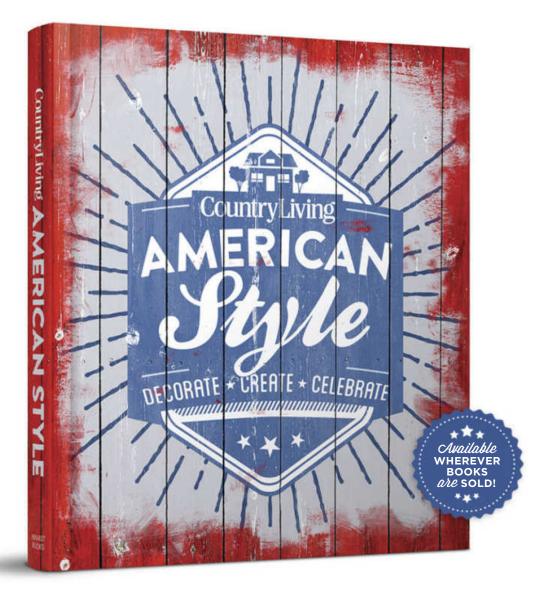
TRY ON SHERWIN-WILLIAMS 2016 COLOR OF THE YEAR!

To visualize **Alabaster SW 7008** setting a tone for relaxation in a bedroom or bath, scan the swatch in-store, using the **ColorSnap* Visualizer** on your smartphone to get a sneak preview by virtually painting one of our custom rooms.





Juspiration from * COAST TO COAST brought home.



Classic yet casual, rustic yet refined, American style is a timeless look you can create wherever you live. Whether you prefer traditional or tradition-with-a-twist, you'll find inspiration in this stunning book, from furnishings and colors to fabrics and great American-made products.

Country Living American Style • \$24.95 (\$27.95 Can) in hardcover

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APRIL 2016



FEATURES

54

Down the **Garden Path**

Peek inside three stunning, sun-drenched backyard retreats.

Late Bloomer

Space-saving tricks and vintage finds help a 125-year-old cottage reach its full potential.

Everything's Coming Up Florals 55 ways to help the season's happiest trend take root in your home





WHICH COVER DID YOU GET?

We loved them both so much, we couldn't pick just one!

Bedroom cover: Photograph by David Hillegas; styling by Page Mullins. Cake cover: Photograph by Brian Woodcock; styling by Page Mullins.

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THE CHECK LIST

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River Cruising Done Perfectly™

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The Mississippi is the lifeblood of the American Heartland. Explore its history and culture this spring with an 8 to 22-day cruise aboard one of our brand new paddlewheelers. With American Cruise Lines, you'll experience *River Cruising Done Perfectly*TM. Call today for a free cruise guide.















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-editors note

THE HORSESHOE

WIN A \$470 BIKE!

If you find the horseshoe hidden in this issue*, go to countryliving.com/sweeps (see page 102 for details). and enter for a chance to win this pearl mint seven-speed cruiser bike from Wayfair.



(Retail value: \$469.99) *Not required for winning.

SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

One of the most beautiful things about spring in the countryside is the intoxicating smell that comes with it. I didn't fully appreciate this until a few years ago when, after far too much time in the city, I went for a windows-down drive through Alabama and realized that a good decade had gone by since I had really experienced spring in all of its hyacinth-scented glory. Sadly, this issue is not a special scratch-and-sniff edition (someday, perhaps!), but I hope it transports you, no matter where you live, to spring in the country. I for one like to imagine myself writing this note from Susanne Hudson's glass-encased potting "shed" on page 60. (Seriously, how amazing is that oil lamp-filled room?)

Another highlight of spring: The Country Living Fair in Nashville on April 22-24, the first of four Fairs this year (go to countryliving.com/fair for more info). Before I landed this (dream!) job, I had long been a reader of this magazine but had

never made my way to a Country Living Fair. Boy, was I missing out! If you have yet to make the trip, here's what to expect: More than 20,000 like-minded shoppers from all over the country (we're talking 40+ states) browsing more than 200 vendors selling everything

from handcrafted wares to vintage goods. (I clearly have a soft spot for the latter based on some of my most recent Fair buys; see right.) I'm particularly excited for our second outing in my home state of Tennessee, and I hope to see you there. (Please be sure to stop and say hello if our paths cross!) For details on how to win a trip to Nashville for this year's event, see page 33. And if you can't make it, shop alongside me on Instagram (@rachelhardage), where I will likely be crowdsourcing whether or not I should buy a granny-chic needlepoint pillow or yet another paint-by-number. (Hint: The answer's always yes!)





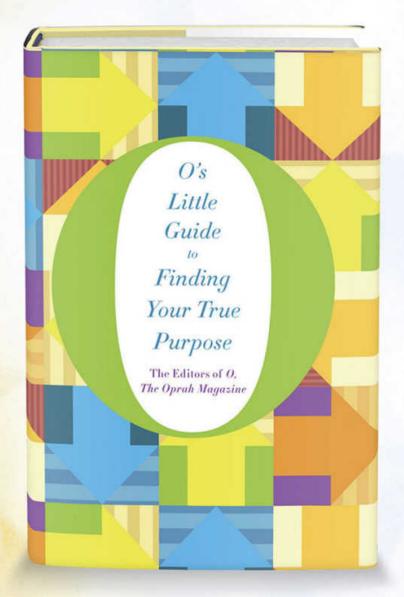
INTRODUCING THE 2016 MAKEOVER TAKEOVER!



Singer-songwriter-style setter Holly Williams (daughter and granddaughter of Hank Williams Jr. and Sr.) just bought a Tennessee farmhouse that needs some TLC and wants Country Living readers to weigh in on the renovation! Follow Country Living on Facebook for a chance to vote on major design choices and keep tabs on the home's progress in upcoming issues. (The first unveiling will be in the June issue.)

"There is no greater gift you can give or receive than to honor your calling."

—Oprah Winfrey



From Marianne Williamson, Patti Smith, Elizabeth Gilbert, Edwidge Danticat, and more: inspiring true-life accounts of trial, error, and triumph.

LittleBooksandGuides.com
ON SALE NOW















See page

details.

celebration of Earth Day." TINA THOMAS, KOUTS, IN 3.

2.

"Planting a new tree in

"Packing a picnic with ingredients I picked up at my local farmers' market."

MIRANDA ROBERSON, IRVING, TX

"Ditching boring black for brighter hues."

KATHY BLAIR, WAYNESBURG, PA

"The start of flea market and tag sale season!"

ELIZABETH DECANIO, WESTON, CT

"The chirp of a red-winged black bird-a sure sign of spring."

CHERI KLUNICK, MOUNT HOREB, WI

"Sunshine and long bike rides." SUSIE CARTER, CHARLOTTE, NC

"Spending quality time outdoors with my pets and family."

LARISSA CREIGHTON, FLORENCE, AL

"Baseball!"

KAREN ALLANACH, FREDERICK, MD

10.

"Who doesn't enjoy playing a prank on April Fool's Day?"

LADONNA THOMPSON, RENWICK, IA

11.

"My annual girlfriends' getaway."

BETH MARTIN, NEWBURGH, NY

12.

"Glorious spring flowers!" C. HAYNES, KETTLE FALLS, WA



MEET OUR READER PET OF THE MONTH!

Reader Catherine Ryan's dachshund, Alfie, enjoys the sunshine and bluebells at his home in the town of Lingfield in Surrey, England.









What are you looking forward to about June in the country? Share your answers with us (countryliving.com/june16). Our 12 favorites will receive a copy of 500 Kitchen Ideas and a chance to appear in our June 2016 issue! See page 102 for rules.

Joke Kit, \$12; broadway

paper.com

Cruiser, \$470;

wayfair.com





Check out the spring crop of new finds designed exclusively for Country Living readers! Find them all at countryliving.com/generalstore.



RUSTIC ARTWORK

A Deann Hebert original, New Beginnings incorporates a dose of seasonal color into her signature neutral palette. From \$95 for 10" by 10" gallery-wrapped canvas (up to 36" by 36"); deanndesigns.com/countryliving



Corral your cooking tools in this charming glazed piece. (5" by 5 1/2") \$125; www .farmhousepottery.com/ collections/countryliving



SPRING BLOOMS

This colorful mix of fresh-cut flowers arrives as buds so you can enjoy watching them open. Hyacinths, \$90 for 25 stems (free shipping); flowermuse.com/countryliving

Check out the real recipe on page 93.







FRAMED FLORALS

Fresh Blooms, a trio of canvas prints featuring roses, nasturtiums, and hydrangeas, comes in reclaimed wood frames. From \$145 for set of three 8" by 10" prints (up to 40" by 53") or \$54 for one; marygregorystudio.com/countryliving

RECIPE TEA TOWEL

Keep our new favorite cake recipe close at hand on this specially designed fade- and wrinkle-resistant screen-printed towel. Pistachio-Lemon Bundt Cake Tea Towel (18" by 24"); belleandunion.com/countryliving



HANDMADE FLAG

This yellow-and-light blue take on Old Glory is handmade in Milwaukee. Flag, \$150 (54" by 30"); cortneyheimerl.com/ countryliving

April showers won't faze this adorable frog friend. 14" organic cotton Lewis Toad in Sky Blue Raincoat, \$54; hazelvillage.com/countryliving



Put those fabric scraps to good use and customize this darling set inspired by a classic spring showstopper. 5" Dogwood Blossom Kit, \$17 (easel \$3.50); minibarnquilts.com/ countryliving



SPINDLE DRESSER

This pretty painted piece—with hand-carved legs—is a blue-ribbon choice for any bedroom. Gwendoline Spindle Dresser in Stone Blue by Farrow & Ball, \$1,899 (43" by 38" by 22"); sweetelle.com/countryliving

spotlight on **CORTNEY HEIMERL**

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Cortney Heimerl grew up surrounded by quilts. Her mother was an accomplished guilter and also collected antique patchwork. Not only did her mother pass down her know-how, but she also provided much-needed funding. "If I wanted to make a quilt, Mom helped me buy the fabric," Cortney says. In the beginning, she found the hard work that goes into every project to be a challenge. "You spend hours hunched over, making these tiny little stitches," she says with a laugh. But she stayed with it, and eventually, she made quilting her full-time job, along with creating handmade flags, pillows, and more. She says the evolution of her work is what keeps it interesting. "It takes years of cuddling, folding, and wrapping up loved ones before quilts look exactly how you want them to."



CAN A BAG FULFILL A DREAM? MINE CAN.





Michael Ventura Founder & CEO, Sub Rosa and Partner, Calliope Caroline Ventura Designer, Brvtvs and Partner, Calliope

COMPLETELY FUN, NO-OBLIGATION WAYS TO ENJOY THE COUNTRY THIS MONTH! -





1. THROW PILLOW

Enjoy no-wilt florals with this 20" by 20" accent made of 100% cotton canvas. \$75; caitlinwilson.com

2.FLUSH-MOUNT LIGHTING

Brighten your space with this distressed fixture adorned with cascading blooms resembling lily of the valley. \$225; rhbaby andchild.com

3. GLASS DOOR CABINET

Cultivate a collection of your favorite curios in this painted hardwood piece. \$250; target.com

4.STORAGE BASKET

Nip clutter in the bud with this grass-green wire catchall. \$10; hm.com

5.LINEN SETTEE

Think pink! A classic shape blossoms in a surprisingly neutral rosy hue. \$1,498; anthropologie.com

6. FLORAL CANDLE

This sweet pea-scented pick is the next best thing to fresh country air. \$17; thecountry candlecompany.com

7. PASTEL PAINT

Benjamin Moore's Spring Flowers has a sophisticated hint of gray to keep the lavender from going too sweet. benjamin moore.com

8.COFFEE TABLE

Kick up your feet on this down-to-earth table featuring metal corner detailing and a planked shelf underneath for extra storage. \$230; worldmarket.com







Before you take those wheels for a spin, check out these fun upgrades.



GINGHAM SEAT COVER, \$20; chubbysbikes.com



CABOCHON FLOWER BELL, \$15; eleanorsnyc.com



HANDWOVEN BASKET. \$61; houseoftalents.com



SCORE A STYLISH...

UMBRELLA STAND

An eye-pleasing stash for wet umbrellas makes it a little easier to weather those rainy days.



French Flower Bucket, \$14; whole saleflowers andsupplies .com



Blue-and-White Porcelain, \$90; target com



Rattan, \$95; kouboo .com



Distressed **Wood,** \$101; overstock .com





CHEER UP YOUR WARDROBE

Crafting one-of-a-kind clothing doesn't have to be expensive or time-intensive. Lotta Jansdotter has (literally) written the book on how to become fashionforward even when you're on a budget and have little sewing knowhow. Everyday Style (\$20; *amazon.com*) offers easy-to-follow steps, fabric suggestions, and a number of simple patterns (like the tunic shown here) that will make hemming and hawing over what to wear a thing of the past.

> Create the perfect boatneck top in Yellow Buffalo Check Gingham by Sugarfresh (from \$18/yard; spoon flower.com).

NET A BUTTERFLY OR TWO

The bright and beautiful insects are flying high in the world of home decor.



Field of Flowers Machaon Butterfly Tray, \$35; juliska.com



Butterflies Coffee Cup, \$13; zarahome.com



Butterfly Print, \$60; banquetworkshop.com



Oldham + Harper **Butterfly Juice Glasses,** \$7 each; fishseddy.com





Sure we made that word up.

But here are a few words we didn't.

100% whole grain,

whole lot of delicious.



UNIQUE IN EVERY WAVE"

thrill of the hunt

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, AND OTHER ONE-OF-A-KIND FINDS



WRITTEN BY LAURREN WELCH PHOTOGRAPHS BY KATE SEARS



1. GARDEN SYRINGE

This vessel could be quickly and easily filled with insecticides, making it ideal for the amateur gardener. The restored late-19th-century piece shown here features a brass body and rosewood handle and commands \$100.

2. LAWN SPRINKLER

Made by notable English maker Philip B. Waldron Co. in the 1940s, this sculptural piece-restored to working condition—is valued at \$75.

3. HOSE BIBB

This impeccable, early-20thcentury brass bibb (or faucet) is a rarity, as many such brass implements were melted down to make ammunitions during World War I and II. The scarce find merits \$200.

4. WATERING FUNNEL

These metal funnels were used to deliver water to trays of delicate seedlings. Likely handmade for use in a greenhouse, this early-1900s waterer sells for \$50.

5. WATERING CAN

Handheld watering cans as we know them weren't introduced until 1886 when John Haws invented a smaller, more user-friendly alternative to large "watering pots." Made in England in the mid-19th century, this large brass-andcopper example of Haws's design—with a rare lid feature will set you back \$500.

6. SPRAYER NOZZLE

An example of how inventive people were in the late 19th century, this fan-shaped nozzle, which attached to a hose, was created to spread water out to a wider area, saving time in hand-watering. Made of solid brass, the piece boasts a going rate of \$250.

7. PLANT MISTER

Used to water delicate indoor plants, small misters (also known as atomizers) were first introduced in the 1850s. This late-19th-century design holds a value of \$125.



1. POTATO SCOOP

This mid-19th-century tool was used to unearth potatoes missed during an initial harvest. With its original handle, the blacksmith-made piece nets an estimate of \$250.

2. APPLE PICKER

French garden tools were often ornate in design. Case in point: this handmade apple-picking crown made of solid brass. Although missing its long wooden handle, the fanciful, 19th-century piece goes for \$100. (When intact, it would be closer to \$175.)

3. WOMEN'S SHEARS

Used for clipping plants and branches, small handbagfriendly shears were a must for any lady out on a garden stroll. Complete with the original leather case, this distinctive sterling silver pair fetches \$350.

4. DUSTING BELLOWS

Gardeners relied on these small tools for scattering powdered insecticides. Made of leather, brass, and copper, this wonderfully preserved English piece from the mid-tolate 18th century—thought to have been used by the royal family at one time—is worth a handsome \$450.

5. BERRY PICKER

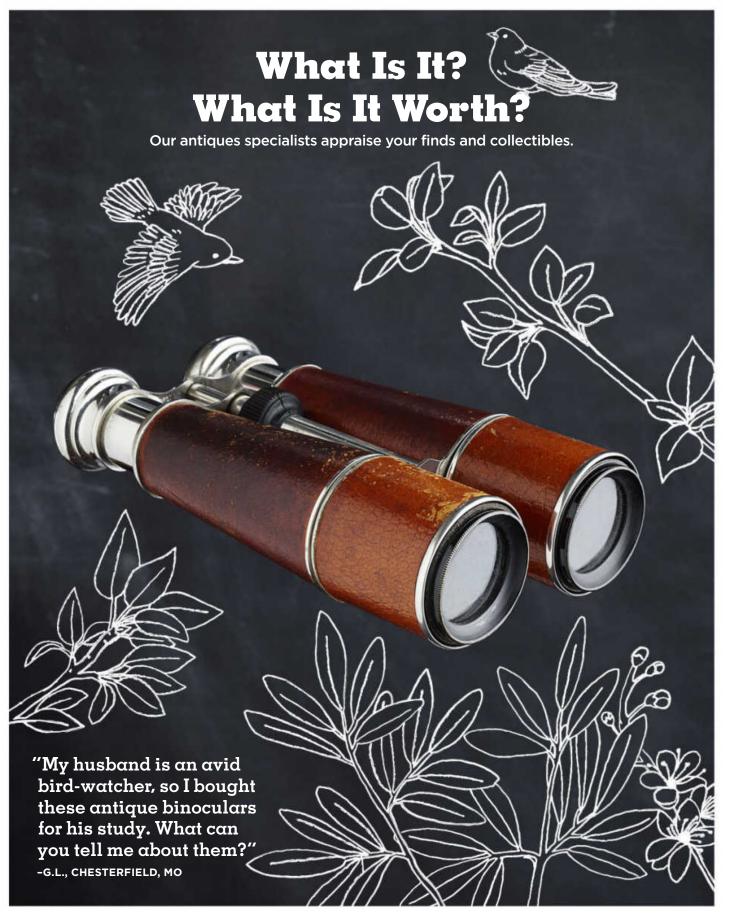
Thanks to its comb-like teeth, this stylish English piece made speedy work of harvesting berries right off the bush. Current pickers—now made of plastic-mimic the smart design of this time-tested, early-20th-century item, which has a value of \$75.

6. SPRING SHEARS

Made of forged steel, these English clippers predate the 1815 invention of secateurs (or garden shears) and were used for pruning and deadheading. This petite pair is priced at \$200.

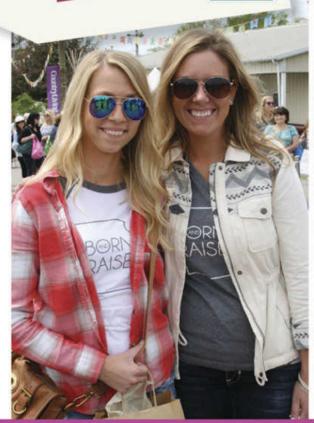
7. DIGGING SPADE

Perfect for furrowing, cultivating, and weeding, the garden spade was-and still is-a gardener's essential. A soughtafter collector's item thanks to its unique heart-shaped cutout (a symbol often used in French tool design), this item unearths a going rate of \$150.



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1.866.500.FAIR stellashows.com countryliving.com/fair #clfair

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WHAT IT IS: **CHEVALIER BINOCULARS**

Your field glasses date back to 1915 and were produced by French manufacturer Chevalier, which was established in the 1700s and made binoculars for activities ranging from watching opera to scoping out a battlefield. According to Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions, yours were made for the latter. "Chevalier used excellent lenses," she says. "This pair was probably used by the military during World War I."

WHAT IT'S WORTH:



"We are restoring an old house, and I love the elaborate gates that are original to the home. Do items like this have value?" -M.W., LEIPER'S FORK, TN

WHAT IT IS: **IRON DOORS**

Unfortunately, elaborate iron garden gates aren't in high demand at the moment. So although yours are in tip-top condition with pretty hammered copper detailing, they aren't going to grow your bank account any more than newer, more modern ironworks might, according to Lauren Laughry of Dallas Auction Gallery.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:

GUESS THE WORTH

A 3-feet-by-2-feet copy of Audubon's Birds of America by author John James, featuring 435 hand-colored illustrations, recently went for a song at auction. It was... a) \$8,000,000 b) \$800,000 c) \$8,000

>>> SEE PAGE 37 TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY! ->>



"I found this old mineral collection in my late mother's things. It's only missing three specimens. Are these kits popular collectibles?"

-Q.H., NEW YORK, NY

WHAT IT IS:

19TH-CENTURY ROCK COLLECTION

After consulting with show appraiser Gary Piattoni, Marsha Bemko of Antiques Roadshow says that your collection was likely used in a late 19th-century classroom. "An old teaching aid like this is interesting in that it gives a true sense of the early discovery of the world," she says. The presence of the original index key makes up for the missing minerals.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:



"I found these old stamps in my father-in-law's attic. Should we save them or simply use them to mail letters and bills?"

-E.F., SARANAC LAKE, NY

WHAT IT IS:

COLOR SHIFT STAMPS

Don't use them for the cable bill just yet! "These Owl and Groesbeck stamps are valuable due to their imperfection," says Marsha Bemko of Antiques Roadshow, who consulted Grant Zahajko. "Color shift stamps-stamps that were misaligned within the color application during printing—are classified under Postage Stamp Errors, Freaks, and Oddities. The greater the misalignment, the higher they might sell for."

WHAT IT'S WORTH:

\$250



-E.R., NEWTOWN, CT

WHAT IT IS:

GENTLEMAN'S PARLOR CHAIR

Good eye! The Kimball Furniture Reproductions Company made these Victorian-style chairs in the 1950s. They were sold in pairs—a smaller, narrower one for the ladies and a larger one for the gents. You have the masculine one, says Jim Griffith of eBay. If you had the mate, the set could be valued at \$800.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:

\$300



"This delightful teething ring has 'Mary Had a Little Lamb' engraved at the bottom. Is it really old?" -L.P., ANDERSON, IN

WHAT IT IS:

Dear Jane, Il must tell you, we had the most glorious day last Saturd

wenty USA

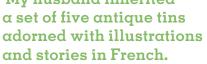
MIDCENTURY TEETHING RING

That depends on what you consider really old. Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions says that your sterling silver-and-mother-of-pearl teething ring dates back to the 1940s or 1950s. If it were Victorian, it would be a bit more elaborate and include an attachment that looks like a baby rattle-and it would be worth twice as much.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:



"My husband inherited a set of five antique tins and stories in French. Are they of great value?"



-P.B., PARIS, KY



WHAT IT IS: **BISCUIT TINS**

Made in France in the early 20th century, these tins once stored cookies. according to Helaine Fendelman. The lids depict images of children conducting physics experiments inspired by Darwin, Marie Curie, Einstein, and the like. This set would be appealing to

WHAT IT'S WORTH: \$475 for a set





"A friend gave me this pretty purple decanter for my birthday. He says it's 100 years old. I have my doubts. What do you think?" -B.B., UNION, MS

WHAT IT IS:

20TH-CENTURY PERFUME BOTTLE

You have a nose for this kind of thing, as your bottle is a reproduction. "The label is a photocopy, and the mold markings on the bottom indicate that it was manufactured in the late 20th century," says Marsha Dixey of Heritage Auctions. If it were truly an 1880s Colgate perfume bottle, it would be green and marked with a "C" in a circle emblem atop a glass stopper.

WHAT IT'S WORTH:

MEET OUR COLLECTING PANEL

MARSHA BEMKO ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

MARSHA DIXEY HERITAGE AUCTIONS

HELAINE FENDELMAN APPRAISERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

> JIM GRIFFITH FRAY

LAUREN LAUGHRY DALLAS AUCTION GALLERY

MIKE WOLFE

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Carter is downright dotty for dots.

TIN LUNCH BOX

This happy little pail could almost inspire me to finally start taking my lunch to work. Instead it's the perfect place to store those desk items-scissors and stampsthat always seem to stray.



AHE COLLECTING LIKE

- By
Mary Randolph Carter

SPOT-ON FINDS

There was a time when polka dots were thought of as a childish pattern meant for decorating little girls' dresses. (I had one in red and white!) But today's thirst for fun graphics has recently catapulted the silly circles down fashion runways and onto the canvases of big-time artists. Being an old-fashioned gal, I still prefer my dots brightening humble pieces (and in turn everyday life) like colorful pottery lined up on my kitchen shelves or a cheery suitcase standing out in a sea of black rolling bags. Indeed, the make-me-smile design is a weakness of mine. If it's charming and speckled, I just can't help but sign on the dotted line.

TIP: Don't limit yourself to dice! You can turn almost any object into a lamp in under an hour. For easy-to-use socket and mounting kits, visit mylampparts.com.

DICEY LAMP

I can't imagine what high roller put all of his or her dice into creating this novel lamp, but it was my lucky day when I found it (and a mate!) at the Rose Bowl Flea Market in Los Angeles (rgcshows.com).

RETRO SHAKERS

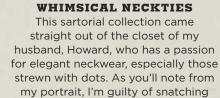
I recently scored this 1940s Anchor Hocking glass salt-and-pepper set. I love how the grainy white seasoning pops against the red design. But, alas, my propensity to oversalt food means it's usually only half full.

> TIP: Old shakers can double as bud vases. Just remove the tops and fill with water and blooms to season up your windowsill.

KITSCHY KITCHEN WARES

I'm especially smitten with dots in the kitchen! This penchant was born when my mother-in-law gifted me the little blue-andwhite pitcher you'll spot on the right of the lower shelf. Today it's encircled by other polka dot finds including tumblers and pudding bowls.

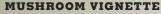




them up for my own purposes!



"I love the way dots brighten humble pieces and, in turn, everyday life."



Years ago this large papier-mâché mushroom sparked my love for red-andwhite fungi of the gnomeapproved variety. Today this spotty assortment stands guard at the entrance of my fairy garden at Elm Glen Farm.



EASY-TO-SPOT SUITCASE

There's no chance my sturdy Samsonite suitcase will ever be mistakenly picked up in baggage claim. When it's not on the road, I proudly display it at the foot of my bed.



BUTTON CARDS

Vintage pearl buttons, an old seller's sample I suspect, sewn onto colored cardboard create dimensional polka dots. What's not to love?

> TIP: Polka dots are an easy motif to paint by hand. To replicate this suitcase, prime luggage and apply the design with an acrylic craft paint.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PLANOMATIC

COUNTRY LISTINGS

Thanks to large, inviting **FRONT PORCHES**, these historic homes are sitting pretty. Brush up on your porch lingo below, then see what your budget can swing on page 42.

CORNICE

An overhang that runs horizontally along the edge of the roof—a stylish means of diverting rainwater from below.

FRIEZE

Pronounced freeze, this purely ornamental band is laced with small brackets to add character and dimension.



CORBEL

Available in a range of embellished designs, these decorative, often non-load-bearing accents add flourish to an otherwise simple porch.

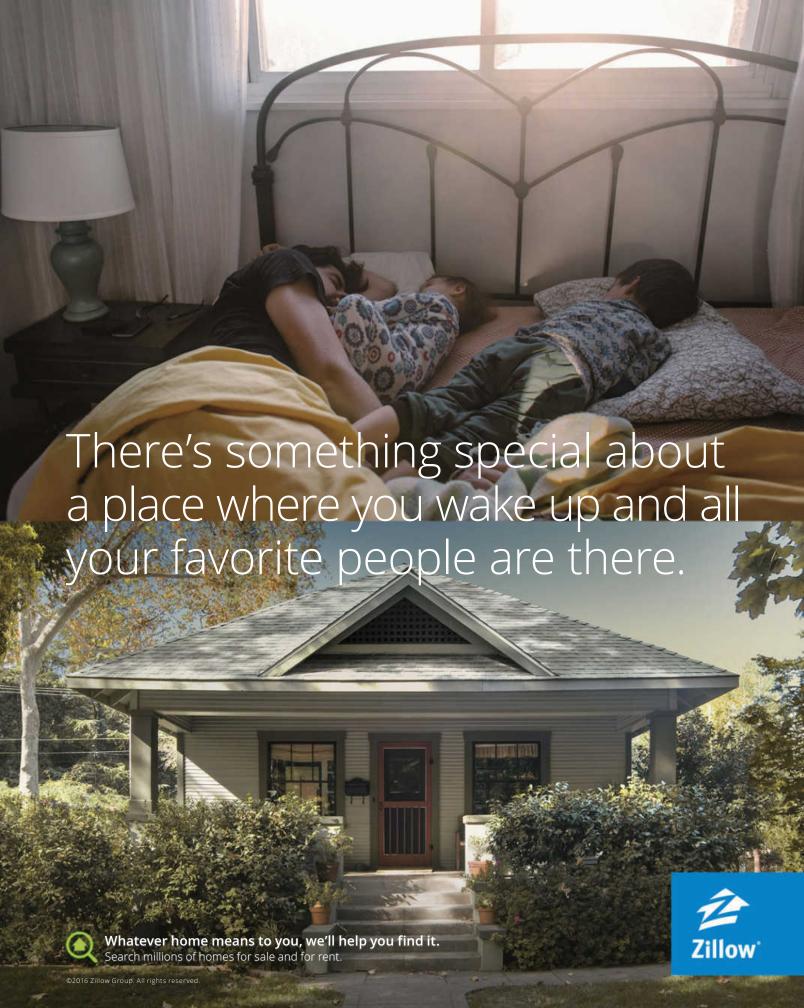
COLUMN

The structural foundation of a porch, this particular square design derives from the classical architecture of ancient Greece and Rome.

SKIRTING

This refers to the tailored facade—usually stone, brick, or latticethat hides the unsightly underbelly of the porch.

FASCIA Long and flat, fasciae cover the ends of both floor and roof rafters, sealing them off from the elements and creating a clean, finished edge.



Instead of showcasing the classic porch hue on the ceiling, this home features steely blue painted floors.

WELDON, NC \$165,000 >

Spend spring afternoons entertaining inside this five-bedroom home's grand gazebo, or a chilly night in front of the vintage gas fireplace. Agent: Joan Todd; wbgreenrealty.com

HAWKINSVILLE, GA \$139,900 ➤

Folk Victorian style, this three bedroom's fanciful twin gables Agent: Jillinda Falen; landmark

A shining example of the give it major curb appeal. perry.com

KILN, MS \$595,000

This 1859 four-bedroom farmhouse boasts a newly installed chef's kitchen and not one, but two master suites. Agent: Jeanne W. Baxter; johnmcdonaldrealty.com

WISNER, NE \$139,000 >

Architecture buffs will adore this fivebedroom Queen Anne, which features original pocket doors and numerous stained-glass windows. Agent: LeeAnn Westerhaus; era.com



Partake in a game of "Count the Columns" (there are 20!) while relaxing on this home's deep front porch.

▲ LAURENS, SC \$215,000

Antique light fixtures and mantels add distinctly historic flair to this three-bedroom home. Agent: J. Michael Manley; greatergreenvilleareahomes.com

▼ LANETT, AL \$324,000

This four-bedroom home's massive rear sunroom is just as enticing as its sprawling front porch. Agents: Nancy and Bob Kustermann; harrynorman.com



The porch light is a beacon of hospitality. Beckon neighbors with these outdoor-friendly fixtures.



Gooseneck Sconce, \$99; ballarddesigns.com



Outdoor Wall Lamp, \$160; target.com



Copper Light, \$290: barnlightoriginals.com



Filament Sconce, \$309; rh.com

home sweet home

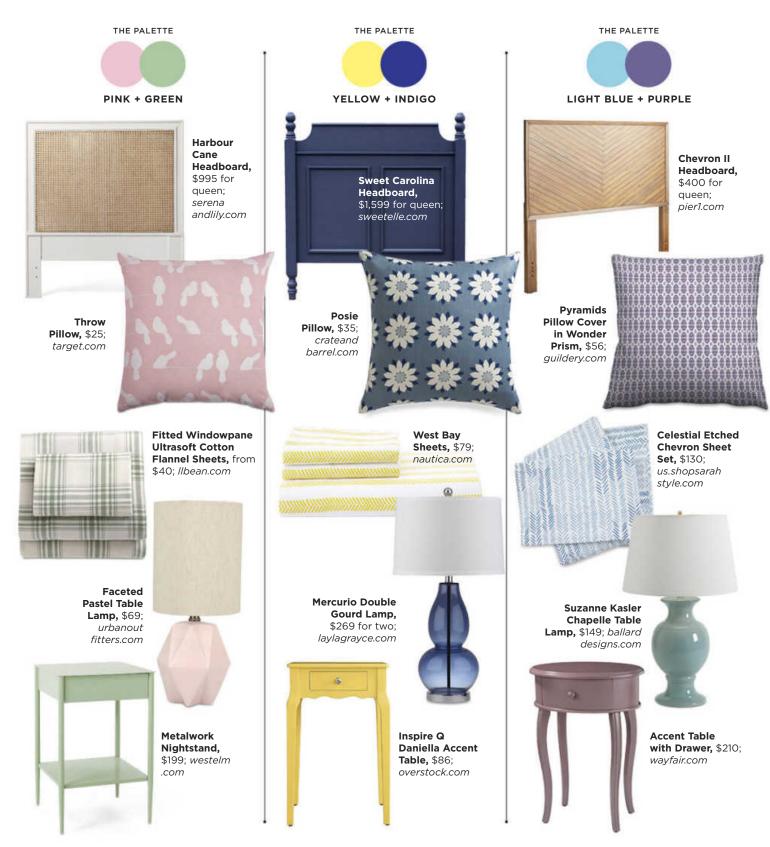
INSPIRING IDEAS FOR IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE





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*Compared to leading clumping litter.



























ASK A COUNTRY VET

Animal expert **DR. TRICIA EARLEY** answers your questions about eggless hens, composting catastrophes, pig-proofing your home, and more.



We recently adopted four hens. Three are laying eggs every day, but one has yet to produce a single egg. Is she trying to get used to her new home, or is she simply α non-layer? -T.J., FREDERICK, MD

Give her a few months. A variety of factors, including the number of daylight hours or changes in nesting environment,

may cause a chicken to stop laying eggs. Is she experiencing a molting cycle? Hens briefly cease production during those periods. Is she the right age? Most begin laying around six months, but some breeds start a little later. Keep in mind, all hens eventually stop producing eggs, so you'll need a plan for non-layers.



HAVE A PET QUESTION? Drop Dr. Earley a line at countryvet@ countryliving.com



We've had a rash of coyote problems that has led us to move our 6-year-old farm dog, Tuck, indoors. Any tips for house-training an older dog?

-M.B., DUCKTOWN, TN

In my opinion, crate training is the best way to teach both puppies and older dogs the concept of "holding it." Begin by buying a crate large enough for Tuck to rest in comfortably. Place him in it for two to three hours of nap time, then take him out immediately to go potty. The moment he goes, reward him with a treat. Follow that up with indoor playtime for two to three hours. Repeat the schedule-crate time, bathroom break, indoor play—until he catches on and does his business outside. As he improves, he can spend less time in the crate and more time playing in the great indoors.



I read somewhere that a compost pile can be harmful to a puppy. Is this true? As a new dog owner, should I move the mound to a compost box?

-Y.C., HAPPYLAND, CT

You're reading the right stuff because it's absolutely true. The billions of bacteria that aid in the process of decomposition can be harmful if swallowed by a curious pooch. Moldy and decaying matter also contains tremorgenic mycotoxins, which, if ingested, can lead to severe neurological and gastrointestinal symptoms such as tremors, seizures, and vomiting. To be safe, move your compost to an enclosed bin or barrel. Not only will your puppy stay much healthier, but you'll also have peace of mind, and your scraps will decompose faster.



I want a pet pig, but I've heard they can be pretty destructive. Do you have any tips for pig-proofing my home? -B.C., HOBART, IN

Imagine having a highly intelligent, ultrainquisitive, food-focused toddler. That's your new pet, and anything under approximately 3 feet tall is at risk. Pigs open cabinets, knock over tables, and can even break in and raid refrigerators. Prepare by installing cabinet locks, securing trash cans, and making sure electrical wires are tucked safely away. These little darlings tend to keep their noses to the ground, so it's also wise to keep anything of value, including rugs, off the floor. Keep in mind that, much like a child, a bored pig is more likely to get in trouble, so offer plenty of toys and treats to keep her occupied.





WIN A PRIZE!

The writer of our favorite caption will receive a Harry Barker plaid dog bed worth \$150 and will have his or her words printed in an upcoming issue. Turn to page 102 for rules.





HOW TO ENTER Visit countryliving.com/aprilpet between February 16 and April 19, 2016, and submit a clever caption.











Out Here You'll Find Me: Doing everything I can't do in the house, like spray-painting and flower pressing.

I Also Love To: Host flower-arranging workshops.

My Design Inspiration in Five Words or Less: A Colonial saltbox.

Salvaged Window Count: 34.

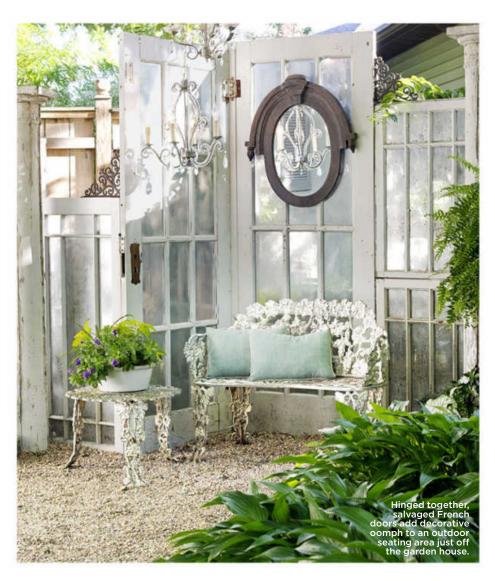
I Have a Serious Green Thumb When It Comes To: Boxwoods. I've learned to propagate them from scratch and couldn't be more proud.

If You Look Closely You'll Notice: The potting bench my husband built me [far right] has running water. All my projects are messy-I need a spot to clean up!

Best Junking Find: Well, it sort of found me. The green Adirondack chairs [page 54] my son made in his high school shop class look great no matter where they land.

Here, the Magic Hour Is: 3 p.m. in the summer. The front windows sparkle when the sunlight hits.

This Space Is Best Enjoyed With: Sun tea made right on site.

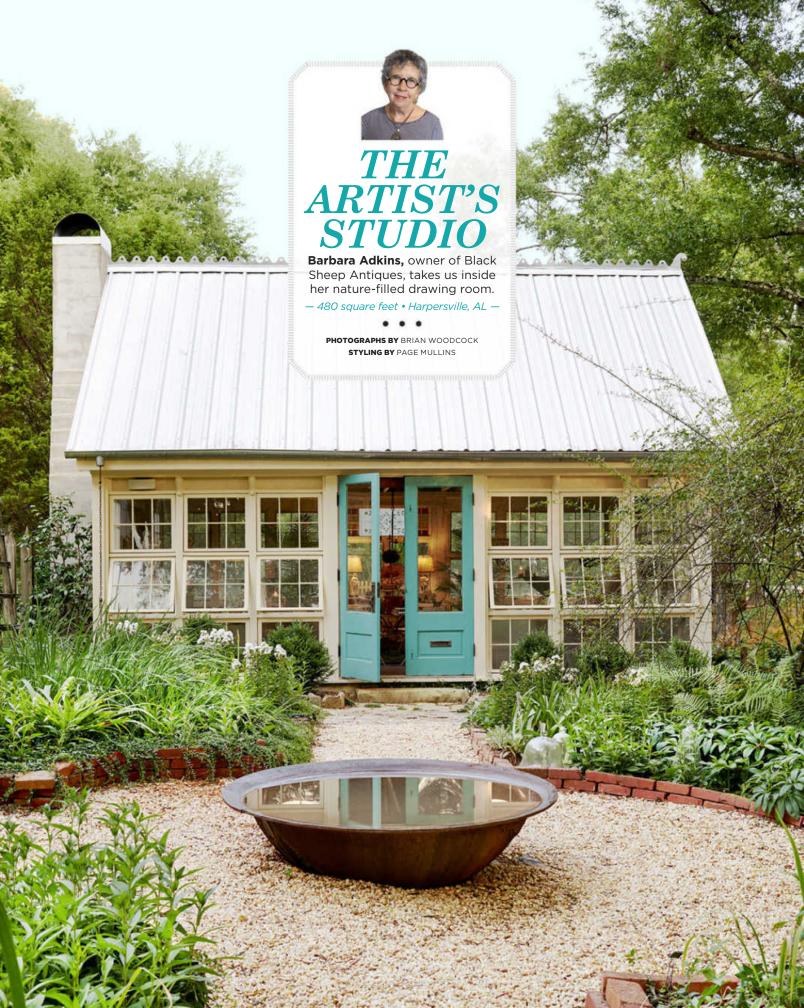


"Almost every part of my 'tinker' house was collected during the renovation of my family's fifthgeneration, circa 1890s farmhouse. I even topped it with the home's original mismatched door hardware."

-Donna Jenkins









Out Here You'll Find Me: With a paintbrush in hand.

I Also Love To: Use the space for hosting dinner parties.

My Design Inspiration in Five Words or Less: Victorian greenhouse meets Alabama farmhouse.

Salvaged Window Count: 48.

I Have a Serious Green Thumb When It Comes To: Jonquils, oxeye daisies, Lady Banks roses, and garden phlox. Just depends on the season!

If You Look Closely You'll Notice: The windows are hinged across the top so they can open to catch the cross-breeze.

Best Junking Find: Those blue front doors—that's the original paint!

Here, the Magic Hour Is: Early afternoon. The sunlight just floods in.

This Space Is Best Enjoyed With: A glass of red wine.





"You can't beat the view. From any perch, you can take in glimpses of our property's barn, gardens, pastures, and house. It's the perfect lookout point."

-Barbara Adkins







Out Here You'll Find Me: Planning, potting, pruning, and anything else related to gardening.

I Also Love To: Sit here on a rainy day and pore over antique gardening books.

My Design Inspiration in Five Words or Less: Country French all the way.

Salvaged Window Count: 139, plus five French doors. I collected them for three years and personally mapped out their placement like a giant jigsaw puzzle.

I Have a Serious Green Thumb When It Comes To: Limelight hydrangeas. I'm a nut for them!

If You Look Closely You'll Notice:

The side entrance has a sliding barn door and is extra wide so I can bring in a wheelbarrow.

Best Junking Find: An antique door that I turned into a French trumeaustyle mirror [see above].

Here, the Magic Hour Is: Evening! Thanks to hanging lanterns and oil lamps, it looks like a little jewel box all lit up.

This Space Is Best Enjoyed With: White wine when I have friends over; a cold glass of water when I'm working.



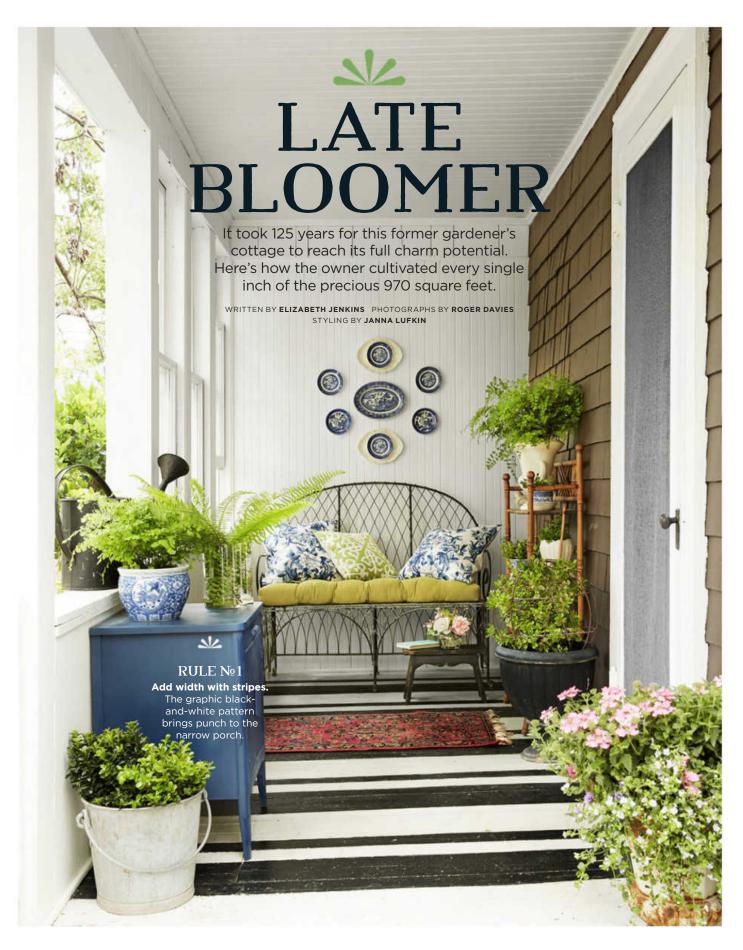


"I will never tire of my garden house's green trim [Tarrytown Green by Benjamin Moorel. It was hard to find a color that both pops and blends into the surroundings, but this one gets it just right."

-Susanne Hudson









ho could be lucky enough to live there?"That was Janet Korff's thought 25 years ago when a wrong turn led her down the wooded driveway of the cottage she now calls home. "At the time, I would have never guessed that one day I would be that person," she says. But a quarter-century later, the house unexpectedly hit the market, she and her husband, Larry, made an offer, and Janet suddenly found herself back down that same driveway—her driveway.

Built in 1890, the quaint Redlands, California, home was originally the gardener's residence on a large estate and had long gone unoccupied. "The house itself was unlivable," she says. "The other interested buyers wanted to tear down the property." But despite the home's neglected state, she couldn't resist those roses enveloping the house.

(Continued page 69)









there they took on larger projects like renovating the kitchen and bathrooms. "It took us six weeks of working around the clock," recalls Janet. "But when we moved in, it felt so good to have done every bit of it, save some electrical work, ourselves."

It also felt good—really good—to downsize. "Now I get to focus on the little things that mean so much to me—the nature outside my door, the elegance of living frugally—as opposed to cleaning two stories or vacuuming the stairs," says Janet. Her elegantly thrifty choices are on display throughout the home, whether it's a bedroom side table she scored for \$1 or a \$10 chandelier uncovered at a garage sale. "Almost everything in my house cost \$1," she says, only half-jokingly. Most of the items, however, are rich with sentimental value. Take, for example, the landscape above the stove, a vintage painting of Yosemite. "That one came from my son, Alex, an antiques dealer [Redlands Country Mart]. Larry and I spend a lot of time outdoors and do a lot of hiking, so we collect landscapes."



"This little cottage has let me slow down and find time each day to admire the pieces I love." -JANET KORFF

The time-worn paintings of wide-open spaces feel right at home in the not-so-wide-open cottage—particularly in Larry's cozy office, which feels collected, not cluttered, thanks to thoughtfully chosen, truly personal finds. Those antlers, for example: The couple stumbled across them on a hike, then Janet secured them together with twine.

Janet and Larry's love of outdoor living also extends to the house's lush garden, which is tucked inside a fragrant 40-acre citrus grove. Janet now practices yoga among the thicket of bamboo and, almost every day, dries her laundry on a simple clothesline. "Our sun-dried sheets and shirts take on the scent of the surrounding flowers and citrus trees. A drier sheet can't come close to competing with the fresh aroma," says Janet, clearly smitten with the underrated ritual of stringing laundry on a line. The takeaway? When you trade too much space for less-is-more simplicity, sometimes laundry isn't a chore. And sometimes a wrong turn is anything but.

The Korffs replaced the master bathroom

door with a toile curtain to improve traffic flow in the cramped space









PICK SOME 'STICKS

Made of iron and papiermâché and available in 11 colors, this Stray Dog Designs dahlia candlestick (\$75; straydog designs.com) adds a striking element to a mantel or tabletop.



Plant Your Feet on a Pretty Stairwell

Like a flower poking up through concrete, blooms in unexpected places—stair risers, closets, junk drawers—add a bit of whimsy. For risers, stick to soft, not-too-contrasty background colors so that the climb up isn't too dizzying.

Add a touch of rose

For a respite from bold and bountiful patterns, embellish walls with a flower-inspired hue, whether it's the **Rosemeade Mirror** (\$299; horchow .com) or Coming up Roses paint (sherwin-williams .com).





TOIL AWAY IN STYLE

GREEN THUMBS PAIR BEST WITH BOLD ACCESSORIES.



Roses Watering Can, \$63; bambuzo.com



Women's Tall Rain Boots, \$175; us.hunterboots.com



Summer Lily Garden Stool, safavieh.com for stores



Garden Tulip Trowel, \$41; amazon.com





\$74; homedecorators.com



Flower Garden Throw Pillow,



Microcord Throw Pillow Cover in Coralie, \$89; *loomdecor.com*



Schumacher Bermuda Blossoms Cover, \$60; westendaccents.etsy.com

Nothing livens up a plain sofa or chair like a vibrant pattern or a touch of texture. These fun finds will stay in style from season to season.



Indigo Hand-Block Print Pillow Cover, \$40; whitlockandco.etsy.com



Indira Ink Decorative Pillow, \$133; zincdoor.com



Shasta Daisy Vintage Seed Packet Pillow, \$33; zazzle.com



Karla Gold Pillow, \$30; worldmarket.com

Iron Petals Pendants, from \$148 each; anthropologie.com



5-Light Chandelier, \$120; wayfair.com

LET THERE

THESE FIXTURES GIVE NEW MEANING TO FLOWERING BULBS.



Burgeoning Blooms Chandelier, \$198; anthropologie.com



Flora Pendant, \$402; myswankyhome.com

PERK UP YOUR PROFILE

Give formal black-and-white silhouettes a fresh makeover with these floral takes on the classic design. Snip one yourself from patterned paper, or scoop up a ready-made option.





Dachshund Pillow, \$140; sugarboodesigns.com



Instant Download State Print, \$5; mossandtwigprints.etsy.com



Custom Silhouette, \$14; prettiestsilhouettes.etsy.com

SPELL IT OUT

Plant the seed of an idea whether that's with your favorite word or saying on a wall or bookcase with these vintageinspired tin letters (\$18 each; acottageinthe city.com).





TAKE A SPRING BREAK

HIT THE ROAD IN STYLE. NO MATTER THE WEATHER.



Patterned Tube Scarf, \$10; hm.com



Keds Champion Floral Oxford, \$28; jet.com



The Power Trip Charger, \$32; bando.com



Print Large Open Top Tote, \$44; landsend.com

MAIN PHOTOGRAPH BY CATHERINE GRATWICKE / COUNTRY LIVING UK





Add a touch of buttercup

Enjoy a bloominspired pop of yellow with the **Keaton End** Table (\$52; lampsplus .com) or a sunny coat of Buttercup (glidden .com) on the walls.

TRY A LUSH **BACKSPLASH**

Amp up a bland spot behind the sink with a vivid tile or a bright fabric under tempered glass (like the one shown here). Frequent watering encouraged.



Vine, \$7/tile; cement tileshop .com





TAKE IN THE VIEW

Now that your home is alive with spring, stake out a spot for this antiqueinspired rattan bench. (\$898; shopterrain.com)



out the Blue Ribbon Kitchen

PRIZE PICKS AND SHOWSTOPPING RECIPES FOR THE HEART OF YOUR HOME



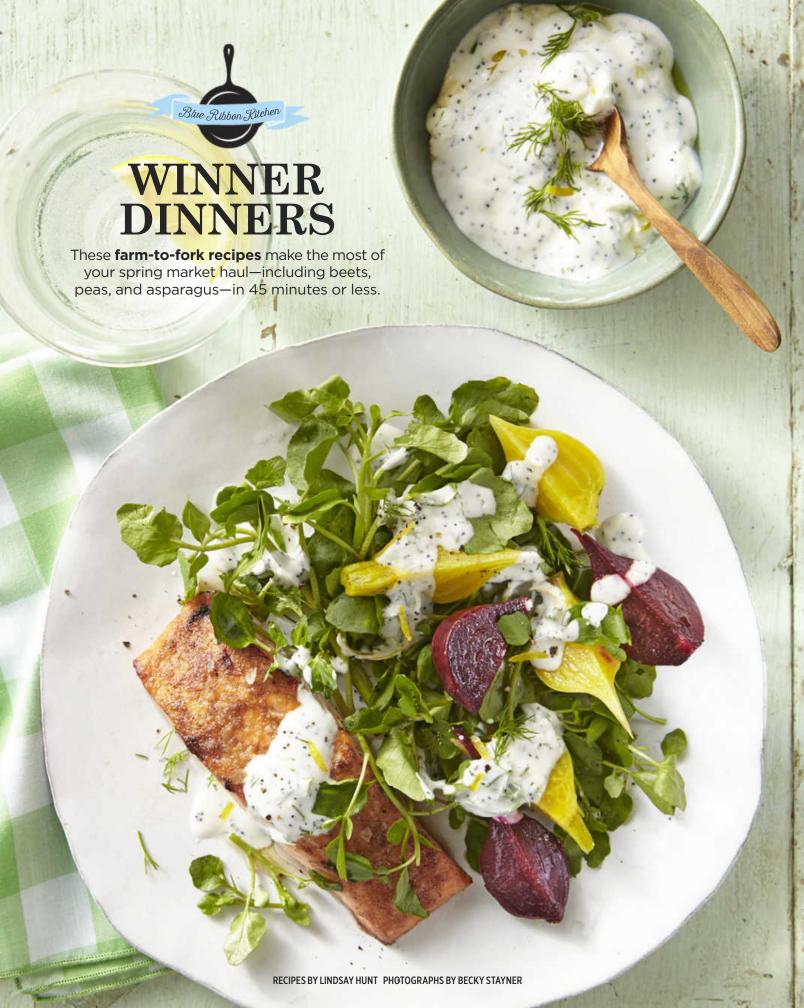


If your walls could talk, they'd say <u>subscribe</u>.



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with Yogurt Sauce over Watercress

MAKES 4 servings WORKING TIME 25 minutes **TOTAL TIME 25 minutes**

- 1¹/₄ pounds beets (about 5 small), peeled and cut into 1-inch wedges
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
 - 2 tablespoons chopped fresh dill, plus more for
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest plus 1 tablespoon lemon
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon poppy seeds Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
 - 4 (6-ounce) skinless salmon fillets
 - 1 teaspoon ground coriander
 - 1 bunch watercress, thick stems removed
- 1. Set a steamer basket over 1 inch of boiling water in a medium saucepan. Steam beets until tender, 18 to 20 minutes.
- 2. Meanwhile, whisk together yogurt, dill, lemon zest and juice, oil, and poppy seeds in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper.
- 3. Preheat broiler. Season salmon with coriander and salt and pepper. Broil on a rimmed baking sheet until just opaque throughout, 5 to 6 minutes.
- 4. Serve salmon, beets. and watercress topped with yogurt sauce.

PER SERVING: protein: 40g; fat: 28 g; carbohydrate: 13 g; fiber: 4 g; sodium: 220 mg; cholesterol: 95 mg; calories: 463.



Salt-and-Pepper Chicken with Spring Quinoa Pilaf

MAKES 4 servings **WORKING TIME 20** minutes **TOTAL TIME** 45 minutes

- 1/4 cup olive oil, divided
- 8 small bone-in, skin-on chicken thighs (weighing about 1 1/2 pounds total)

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

- 1 cup quinoa, rinsed
- 2 tablespoons unseasoned rice wine vinegar
- 4 scallions, sliced
- 3 radishes, halved and thinly sliced

- 1 small carrot, grated
- 3 ounces feta, crumbled (about 3/4 cup)
- 1/4 cup fresh basil leaves, torn
- 1. Preheat oven to 450°F. Heat 2 tablespoons oil in a large ovenproof skillet over medium-high heat. Season chicken with salt and pepper. Cook skin-side down, in batches, until the skin is golden and crispy, 5 to 7 minutes. Return all of the chicken to the skillet, skinside up, and transfer skillet to the oven. Roast until the internal temperature of chicken reaches 165°F, 18 to 22 minutes.
- 2. Meanwhile, cook guinoa according to package directions. Whisk together vinegar and remaining 2 tablespoons oil in a bowl. Add scallions, radishes, carrot, feta, basil, and guinoa and toss to combine.
- 3. Serve chicken over quinoa

per serving: protein: 72 g; fat:60 g; carbohydrate: 31 g; fiber: 4 g; sodium: 485 mg; cholesterol: 378 mg; calories: 969.



Mushroom-and-Asparagus Pizzas

MAKES 4 servings **WORKING TIME** 25 minutes **TOTAL TIME** 45 minutes

- 4 tablespoons olive oil, divided, plus more for baking sheets
- 12 ounces mixed mushrooms, such as cremini, button, oyster, and shiitake, thinly sliced Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 pound pizza dough, at room temperature
- 4 to 5 asparagus stalks, thinly shaved
- 4 ounces fresh goat cheese, crumbled (about 1 cup)
- 4 ounces grated pecorino cheese (about 1 cup)
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper Mixed green salad, for serving
- 1. Preheat oven to 500°F with racks in the upper and lower thirds. Oil two baking sheets.
- 2. Heat 3 tablespoons oil in a large skillet over mediumhigh heat. Add mushrooms and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until golden brown and tender, 8 to 10 minutes.
- 3. Meanwhile, divide dough into four pieces and stretch into 7-inch circles; place on prepared baking sheets. Top dough with mushrooms, asparagus, goat cheese, pecorino, and red pepper, dividing evenly. Season with salt and pepper. Brush edges of dough with remaining tablespoon oil.
- **4.** Bake, rotating the sheets front to back and top to bottom halfway through, until crust is golden brown, 10 to 12 minutes.
- 5. Serve pizzas with mixed green salad alongside.

PER SERVING: protein: 28 g; fat: 34 g; carbohydrate: 55 g; fiber: 3 g; sodium: 811 mg; cholesterol: 52 mg; calories: 634.

Breaded Pork Cutlet with Avocado-and-Shredded Kale Salad

MAKES 4 servings **WORKING TIME 35 minutes** TOTAL TIME 35 minutes

- 1 large bunch Lacinato kale, thick stems discarded and leaves thinly sliced
- 5 tablespoons olive oil, divided Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 pork cutlets (about 1 pound), pounded thin
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 1 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1 small head radicchio, leaves torn
- 1 cup snap peas, thinly sliced
- 1 avocado, chopped
- 1 lemon, peel removed and flesh chopped
- 1. Toss together kale and 3 tablespoons oil in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Set aside to soften.
- 2. Place flour in a shallow dish. Place eggs in a second shallow dish. Place breadcrumbs in a third shallow dish. Season pork with salt and pepper. Working one piece at a time, dip pork in flour, then in eggs, then in breadcrumbs, pressing gently to help adhere.
- 3. Heat remaining 2 tablespoons oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Cook pork, in batches, until golden brown and cooked through, 2 to 3 minutes per side. Slice into thin strips.
- 4. Add radicchio, snap peas, avocado, and lemon to the kale and toss to combine. Season with salt and pepper.
- 5. Serve salad topped with pork.

PER SERVING: protein: 31 g; fat: 31 g; carbohydrate: 31 g; fiber: 8 g; sodium: 151 mg; cholesterol: 153 mg; calories: 517.

Grilled Cumin-Rubbed Hanger Steak with Smashed Minty Peas and Grilled Bread

MAKES 4 servings **WORKING TIME 20 minutes TOTAL TIME 30 minutes**

- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
- 1 pound fresh or thawed frozen peas
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh mint
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1¹/₂ pounds hanger steak, cut into 2 pieces
 - 1 teaspoon ground cumin
 - 4 slices country bread
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - 2 ounces shaved **Parmesan**
- 1. Preheat grill to mediumhigh. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a small saucepan over medium-high heat. Add peas and cook, stirring often, until soft, 6 to 8 minutes. Add remaining tablespoon butter and mash. Add mint and lime juice and stir to combine. Season with salt and pepper.
- 2. Meanwhile, season steak with cumin and salt and pepper. Grill until internal temperature reaches 130°F (medium-rare), 4 to 5 minutes per side. Let rest 5 minutes before slicing.
- 3. Brush bread, on both sides, with oil. Grill until golden brown and crispy. about 1 minute per side.
- 4. Serve pea mash topped with shaved Parmesan and steak and grilled bread alongside.

PER SERVING: protein: 47 g; fat: 28 g; carbohydrate: 34 g; fiber: 7 g; sodium: 516 mg; cholesterol: 132 mg; calories: 578.





SUPPLE THINGS

Turn a porcelain quiche dish upside down for a quick cake display. (\$10; crateandbarrel.com)

> Strawberry-Limeade Cake Æ STRAWBERRY-CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

page 93





Strawberry – Limeade Cake # STRAWBERRY-CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

MAKES 12 to 15 servings **WORKING TIME 45 minutes** TOTAL TIME 5 hours, 30 minutes

Baking spray, for cake pans

- 3 cups cake flour. spooned and leveled
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
 - 1 pound strawberries. chopped, plus more whole for garnish
- 1/2 cup buttermilk, at room temperature
 - 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup packed light brown sugar
- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon lime zest

Strawberry-Cream Cheese Frosting

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease three 8-inch round cake pans and line bottoms with parchment paper rounds. Whisk together flour, baking soda, baking powder, and salt in a bowl.
- 2. Process strawberries in a food processor until small pieces and a thick puree form, 5 to 10 seconds. Whisk together buttermilk and 1 cup strawberry puree in a bowl. Reserve remaining puree for Strawberry-Cream Cheese Frosting.
- 3. Beat butter and sugars with an electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating to incorporate after each addition. Beat in vanilla and lime zest. Reduce speed to low and beat in flour mixture and buttermilk mixture alternately, starting and ending with flour mixture, just until flour is incorporated. Divide





batter among prepared pans.

- 4. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 20 to 23 minutes. Cool in pans on a wire rack for 15 minutes, then invert onto rack to cool completely.
- 5. Place one layer on a cake plate and frost top with 1 cup frosting. Repeat two more times. Cut a 12-by-24-inch piece of plastic wrap and fold in half to make a 6-by-24-inch strip. Wrap around cake to secure layers. Chill until frosting is set, 4 hours or up to 1 day. Top with whole strawberries just before serving.

STRAWBERRY-CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

Beat 12 oz. room temperature cream cheese and 1 stick (1/2 cup) room

temperature unsalted butter with an electric mixer on medium speed until fluffy. 1 to 2 minutes. Gradually beat in 4 cups confectioners' sugar, until smooth. Beat in 1 Tbsp. each lime zest and lime juice, 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract, and 3 to 4 Tbsp. reserved strawberry puree.

Pistachio-Lemon Bundt Cake

MAKES 15 to 20 servings **WORKING TIME 20 minutes TOTAL TIME 2 hours**

Baking spray, for pan

- 3 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled. plus more for the pan
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 cups shelled roasted pistachios

- 1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 2 cups sugar
 - 1 tablespoon lemon zest
 - 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
 - 4 large eggs, at room temperature

1/4 cup light rum **Lemon Glaze**

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.

- Generously grease and flour a 12-cup Bundt pan. Whisk together flour and salt in a bowl.
- 2. Pulse pistachios in a food processor until very finely ground (they should cling together when pinched), 15 to 20 times.
- 3. Beat butter and sugar on medium speed with an electric mixer until light and



fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add pistachios, lemon zest, and vanilla and beat until well blended. Add eggs, one at a time, beating to incorporate after each addition. Reduce speed to low and beat in flour mixture and rum alternately, starting and ending with flour mixture, just until flour is incorporated. Scoop batter into prepared pan.

- 4. Bake, until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 55 to 60 minutes. Cool in pan on a wire rack for 20 minutes, then invert onto rack to cool completely.
- 5. Brush cake with warm Lemon Glaze.

LEMON GLAZE

Simmer 3/4 cup sugar, 2 Tbsp. each fresh lemon juice and water and a pinch of kosher salt in a small saucepan over medium heat, stirring, until sugar dissolves, 1 to 2 minutes. Stir in 1/2 tsp.

pure vanilla extract. Cool 10

Lady Grey Cupcakes

ORANGE ZEST FROSTING

MAKES 20 cupcakes **WORKING TIME 45 minutes** TOTAL TIME 1 hour. 30 minutes

- 3 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3 bags Lady Grey tea
- 1/4 cup pure honey
- 1 1/2 cups sugar, divided
- 1 cup half-and-half
 - 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 2 large eggs
 - 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

Orange Zest Frosting

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.

Line 20 standard muffin cups with paper liners. Whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt in a bowl.

- 2. Bring 1/2 cup water to a simmer in a small saucepan. Add tea bags and steep 10 minutes. Squeeze tea bags to remove excess liquid; discard tea bags. Stir in honey and 1/4 cup sugar until dissolved. Stir together 1/4 cup tea syrup and half-and-half in a bowl. Reserve remaining syrup.
- 3. Beat butter and remaining 1¹/₄ cup sugar on medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating to incorporate after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Reduce speed to low and beat in flour mixture and half-and-half mixture alternately, starting and ending with flour mixture, just until flour is incorporated. Divide batter between prepared muffin cups.
- 4. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 18 to 20 minutes. Use a toothpick to poke 10 holes in each cupcake and brush with remaining tea syrup. Cool completely in pans on a wire rack.
- 5. Frost cupcakes with Orange Zest Frosting.

ORANGE ZEST FROSTING

Beat 1 cup (2 sticks) room temperature unsalted butter and 16 oz. confectioners' sugar with an electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. 1 to 2 minutes. Beat in 1 Tbsp. orange zest, 2 Tbsp. each orange juice and milk, and a pinch of kosher salt until smooth.



MAKES 8 servings **WORKING TIME 30** minutes TOTAL TIME 1 hour, 30 minutes

Baking spray, for pan

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
 - 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
 - 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 1 cup sugar
 - 3 large eggs, at room temperature
 - 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
 - 1/2 teaspoon pure almond extract
 - 1/2 cup whole milk, at room temperature
 - 2 tablespoons poppy speds

Almond Glaze

- 1. Preheat oven to 325°F. Lightly grease an 8-by-4-inch loaf pan. Whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt in a bowl.
- 2. Beat butter and sugar on medium speed with an electric mixer until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating to incorporate after each addition. Beat in vanilla and almond extracts. Reduce speed to low and beat in flour mixture and milk alternately, starting and ending with flour mixture, just until flour is incorporated. Fold in poppy seeds. Pour batter into prepared pan.
- 3. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 45 to 55 minutes. Cool in pan on a wire rack for 15 minutes, then remove to rack to cool completely.
- 4. Drizzle cake with Almond Glaze.

ALMOND GLAZE

Whisk together 1 cup confectioners' sugar, 11/2 Tbsp. milk, 1/2 tsp. each pure vanilla extract and pure almond extract, and a pinch of kosher salt in a bowl. Add additional milk, 1 tsp. at a time, to reach desired consistency.



NOTHING ELSE Tastes LIKE









Speckled Malted Coconut Cake

MAKES 12 to 15 servings **WORKING TIME 45 minutes** TOTAL TIME 1 hour, 30 minutes

Baking spray, for pan

- 3 cups cake flour, spooned and leveled
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 cup malted milk powder
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 cup canola oil
- 1 cup half-and-half, at room temperature
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon pure coconut extract
- 1 large egg plus 2 large egg whites, at room temperature

Coconut Buttercream

1/8 teaspoon brown gel food coloring

Phyllo nest and robin egg candies

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease three 8-inch cake pans and line bottoms with parchment paper rounds. Whisk together flour, baking powder, malt powder, and salt in a bowl.
- 2. Whisk together oil, half-and-half, sugar, vanilla, coconut extract, and whole egg in a separate bowl until smooth. Fold in flour mixture just until incorporated. Beat egg whites with an electric mixer on medium-high speed until stiff peaks form, 1 to 2 minutes. Fold egg whites into batter just until combined.
- 3. Divide batter among prepared pans. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. 18 to 22 minutes. Cool in pans on a wire rack for 15 minutes, then invert onto racks to cool completely.
- 4. Place one layer on a cake plate and frost top with 1 cup Coconut Buttercream. Repeat two more times. Frost sides with remaining Coconut Buttercream.

5. Stir together food coloring and 2 drops water in a bowl. Dip the tip of a wide, stiff paintbrush into the mixture. Holding the brush 6 to 8 inches from the cake, gently fling the mixture onto iced cake. Repeat for desired effect. Spread Phyllo Nest around the base of the cake. and nestle candies in nest.

COCONUT BUTTERCREAM

Beat 1 cup (2 sticks) room temperature unsalted butter and 1/2 cup cream of coconut with an electric mixture on medium speed until smooth, 1 to 2 minutes. Gradually beat in 6 cups confectioners' sugar. Beat in 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract and a pinch of kosher salt until combined. Beat in blue gel food coloring, one drop at a time, to desired color.

PHYLLO NEST

Tightly roll 6 sheets of phyllo dough lengthwise. Very thinly slice. Transfer to a baking sheet, loosely separating layers. Spray with cooking spray. Bake at 350°F until golden-brown, 10 to 12 minutes. Cool completely.

Vanilla Sheet Cake CHOCOLATE-CINNAMON FILLING

MAKES 15 to 18 servings **WORKING TIME 30 minutes** TOTAL TIME 1 hour, 30 minutes

Baking spray, for pan

- 3 cups all-purpose flour, spooned and leveled
- 11/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 (4-ounce) bars bittersweet chocolate, chopped
- 1 cup crispy rice cereal
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 cup packed light brown sugar
 - 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 2 cups granulated sugar

- 3 large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 tablespoon vanilla bean paste
- 1 cup whole milk, at room temperature

Rich Chocolate Frosting

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 13-by-9-inch baking pan. Whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt in a bowl.
- 2. Pulse chocolate, cereal, cinnamon, and brown sugar in a food processor until chocolate is finely chopped, 10 to 12 times.
- 3. Beat butter and granulated sugar with an electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy, 1 to 2 minutes. Add eggs, one at a time, beating to incorporate after each addition. Beat in vanilla bean paste. Reduce speed to low and beat in flour mixture and milk alternately, starting and ending with flour mixture, just until flour is incorporated. Pour half of batter into prepared pan. Sprinkle chocolate mixture evenly over batter and top with remaining batter.
- **4.** Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 30 to 35 minutes. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack.
- 5. Frost cake with Rich Chocolate Frosting.

RICH CHOCOLATE FROSTING

Simmer 1/2 cup half-andhalf, 6 Tbsp. cocoa powder, and 1/4 tsp. **kosher salt** in a small saucepan over medium heat, stirring constantly, until smooth, 4 to 5 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in 4 oz. chopped bittersweet **chocolate** until smooth; cool 5 minutes. Beat 1 cup (2 sticks) softened unsalted butter and 2 cups powdered sugar on medium speed until fluffy, 2 to 4 minutes. Gradually add chocolate mixture and beat until smooth, 1 to 2 minutes.



STAND & **DELIVER**

Let them eat (and admire!) cake displayed on these pretty pedestals.



Shimmery pink glass has a charming retro quality. Inverted Thistle Rose, \$57; fishseddy.com



Make a big statement with a tiny 4-inch cupcake mount. Cupcake Stand, \$14: rosannainc.com



Sprayed metal gets a feminine touch with scalloped edging. Ivory Amelie, \$20; worldmarket.com



This buttercream-colored pick is a sweet alternative to Jadeite. Cake Stand, \$70; surlatable.com



Made by a cutting board company, this durable piece only *looks* dainty. **Pastry** Stand, \$40; epicureancs.com





PRIZE PICKS

A heaping helping of the country's best new food finds, served fresh monthly.



Strut your stuff with a roomy chickenembroidered canvas tote. \$26; lowcountry produce.com

CRUNCHIEST **GARNISH**

Add a few of these tangy pickled carrotsmade in San Franciscoto your cheese board for a little extra bite. \$10; garibaldigoods.com



PRETTIEST IN PINK

Le Creuset's cast-iron cookware is available for a limited time in Hibiscus Pink—the perfect springtime hue. \$170; lecreuset.com



FINEST GRIND

When it comes to pepper mills, Peugeot is the brand favored most by chefs. Get it now in the new antiqued Bistro finish. \$45: broadway panhandler.com



A handful of this pistachioand-almond mix-made at the Clif Family Winery in Napa—is guaranteed to cure any 3 o'clock hunger pangs. \$8; cliffamilywinery.com



FRESHEST TAKE ON A BREAKFAST STAPLE

Slather your morning toast with this Georgia-made butter in flavors like balsamic fig with caramelized onion, sea salt, roasted garlic with basil and parsley, and more. \$24 for four; bannerbutter.com



Sweet raisins and tart cranberries.

Together at last.



Kellogg's Raisin Bran° with Cranberries.

The tongue-teasing taste of tart and sweet is a delicious way to enjoy heart-healthy Raisin Bran.



resource guide

YOUR GO-TO GUIDE FOR REPLICATING THE LOOKS IN THIS ISSUE

WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT WORTH?

PAGE 34 Garden gate; nhantique coop.rubylane.com. Mineral collection; grandpasmarket .etsy.com. PAGE 36 Stamps; mistressofmerlin.etsv.com. PAGE 37 Biscuit tins; ofleury .rubylane.com. Perfume bottle; lastchanceantiques.etsy.com.

SPOT-ON FINDS

PAGE 38 Salt and pepper shakers; grctreasures.etsv.com. PAGE 39 Suitcase; atopdrawer.etsy.com

DREAM UP A PRETTY BEDROOM

PAGE 46 Custom Bursts drapery fabric; guildery.com. Butterfield shams; matouk.com. Color Pop Metal watering can; shop terrain.com. Floral arrangement by Lisa Bailey; 205-812-4128. Ronan dining chair in antique white; pier1.com. Campaign desk; worldmarket .com, painted in Sherwin-Williams Bravo Blue. Skona Stripe cotton rug; dashand albert.com. Headboard finishing, Elva Design Company; elvadesigncompany.com.

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PAGE 55 Exterior paint, Hailstorm Grav: valspar.com. PAGE 56 Chandeliers, Hortons of Tipton; 765-675-2013. PAGE 60 Accessories, Black Sheep Antiques; facebook.com/blacksheep curiosities. Exterior paint, Classical White; sherwinwilliams.com.

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PAGE 65 Green trellis pillow; target.com. PAGE 66 Dining table runner; homegoods.com. Rug; lowes.com. Blue-and-white pillows: homegoods.com. PAGE 69 Kitchen table runner; homegoods.com. PAGE 70 Office chair; pier1.com.

THE SWEETEST **THINGS**

PAGE 90 Petals pink peach wallpaper; rebeccaatwood .com. Festival napkin in Petal; sferra.com. PAGE 91 Festival tablecloth in Petal; sferra.com. Orangerie II fabric in Pale Rose; designersquild.com. PAGE 92 Creamware charger; shop terrain.com. Orangerie II fabric in Pale Rose; designersguild .com. Festival napkin in Aqua; sferra com PAGE 92 Plaid Water fabric in Blushing Pink; minted

.com. PAGE 94 Yukata wallpaper in Celadon; designersguild.com. Festival **napkin** in Cameo; sferra.com. PAGE 96 Festival napkin in Carnation; sferra.com. Plaid Water fabric in Mist: minted.com. PAGE 98 Festival tablecloth in Poolside, and Festival **napkin** in Carnation; both from sferra.com.

CORRECTION

The photos in "Flip for Pancakes" (page 91, March 2016) should be credited to Mary Britton Senseney. Country Living regrets the error.

RULES FROM PAGE 6 NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Find the Horseshoe Sweepstakes April 2016. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning February 16, 2016, at 12:01 AM (ET) through April 19, 2016, at 11:59 PM (ET), go to countryliving.com/ sweeps on a computer or wireless device and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the onscreen instructions. Optional: Entry may include the page number where the hidden horseshoe appears in the April 2016 issue of Country Living, available via subscription as early as February 9, 2016, and at newsstands approximately February 23, 2016, to April 5, 2016, while supplies last (exact dates may vary depending on newsstand). Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. One (1) Winner will receive one (1) Women's Nadine 7-Speed Cruiser Bike (ARV: \$470). Odds of winning will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received. Open to the legal residents of the 50 United States and the District of Columbia, who have reached the age of majority in their state or territory of residence at time of entry. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules available at countryliving.com/sweeps.

RULES FROM PAGE 10 NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. The Country Living Dozen June 2016 Contest. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning February 16, 2016 at 12:00 AM (ET) through April 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM (ET) (the "Entry Period"), go to country living.com/june16 on a computer or wireless device and fill out the form. Readers must submit, in 20 words or less, what they are most looking forward to in June. Winner selected based on the following criteria: Originality 50% and Creativity 50%. Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. Twelve (12) Winners may have their caption appear in a future issue of Country Living magazine and will each

receive a copy of 500 Kitchen Ideas (Total ARV: \$300), Must be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Canada (excluding Quebec) who has reached the age of majority in his or her state, territory, or province of residence at time of entry. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Contest is subject to complete official rules available at countryliving.com/june16.

RULES FROM PAGE 33 NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN Country Living Nashville Fair Sweepstakes Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning February 23, 2016 at 12:01 AM (ET) through April 4, 2016 at 11:59 PM (ET) go to countryliving.com/nashvillefair on a computer or wireless device and complete the entry form pursuant to the on-screen instructions. One (1) Grand Prize winner will win a getaway for two (2) people to the Nashville Country Living Fair from April 22, 2016-April 24, 2016, a two (2) night stay at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville, TN, a meet and greet with Country Living Magazine's Editor in Chief, Rachel Hardage Barrett, and \$1,000 which may be used toward travel expenses. Total Sweeps ARV: \$1,765 Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier Odds of winning will depend upon the total number of eligible entries received. Must be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Canada (excluding Quebec) who has reached the applicable age of majority at time of entry. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Sweepstakes subject to complete official rules available at countryliving.com/nashvillefair.

RULES FROM PAGE 50 NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. WRITE A CAPTION FOR THIS PET PHOTO APRIL 2016 CONTEST. Sponsored by Hearst Communications, Inc. Beginning February 16, 2016, at 12:01 AM (ET) through April 19, 2016, at 11:59 PM (ET), go to countryliving.com/ aprilpet on a computer or wireless device and complete and submit the entry form pursuant to the onscreen instructions, including your best original caption of 20 words or less for the displayed photograph. One (1) Winner will receive one (1) Harry Barker Plaid Dog Bed (ARV: \$150) and may have his or her caption appear in a future issue of Country Living magazine. Important Notice: You may be charged for visiting the mobile website in accordance with the terms of your service agreement with your carrier. Must have reached the age of majority and be a legal resident of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia or Canada (excluding Quebec). Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Contest is subject to complete official rules available at countryliving.com/aprilpet

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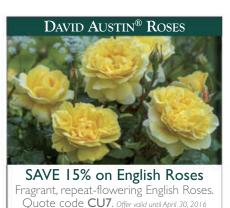
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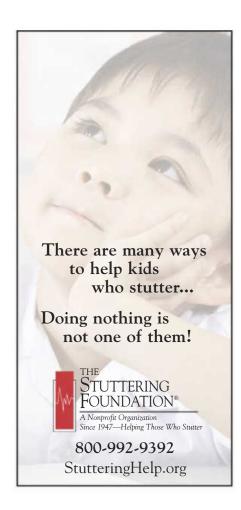
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